

REMARKS

1. This paper is a preliminary amendment to the attached divisional application entitled, "A method for improved contrast mapping of digital images," with attorney docket number 10991798-5. The attached application is a divisional of application control number 09/491,946, attorney docket number 10991798-1, also entitled, "A method for improved contrast mapping of digital images," filed on January 26, 2000.

2. On December 4, 2003 applicant's attorney had a telephone interview with Examiner Mariam regarding the parent application. In this interview, Examiner Mariam requested applicant to select between the limitations of original claims 3 and 4 and add one of these limitations to independent claims 1 and 9 in order to make the parent application in condition for allowance. Applicant's attorney chose to incorporate the limitation of claim 3 to the independent claims 1 and 9, and the parent application was then allowed. This divisional and preliminary application is identical to the parent application that has been allowed, with the exception that the limitation of claim 4 has now been added to the independent claims 1 and 9. Thus, from the prosecution of the parent application, and the telephone interview with Examiner Mariam, applicant believes that the present application is in a condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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